Reply of Government.—This is a matter to be represented to the survey authorities at the time of survey and settlement.

SUBJECT No. 126.

Grant of new building sites.

Messrs. G. Tirunarana Iengar, Venkataramaiya and Padmarajaiya, Channarayapatna Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—As per Village Sanitation Rules insanitary buildings are removed and new ones constructed on new sites. For this purpose private holdings are acquired on payment of compensation. Though the lands so acquired are valuable, compensation paid therefor is generally small. The same lands are given out again for building purposes at not less than six pies a square yard which comes to Rs. 150 an acre. Compensation also may be paid at that rate or sites of the same dimension as were acquired given to the person concerned and only the excess thereof sold.

In fixing the compensation the Amildar selects panchayatdars, who will state as low an amount as possible as the price of the land. The owner of such land should therefore be given the option of nominating a similar number of panchayatdars. Poor people are unable to take the formalities required to have the award revised. Deputy Commissioners may therefore be required to give liberal compensation.

Reply of Government.—The Land Acquisition Regulation prescribes a procedure for the valuation of the lands, which is to be determined by the evidence. The panchayatdars are not arbitrators. They are simply called for the purpose of assisting in fixing the value of the land. There is nothing to prevent the owner of the land from adducing his own evidence of the real value of the land. If he is not satisfied with the value offered, he has a right of appeal. This is not a matter for any executive order of Government.

SUBJECT No. 127.

Appropriation of suitable lands required for extending populous villages.

Mr. V. Raghavachar, Advocate, Nanjangud Taluk.
Mr. Ramanuja Iyengar, Gubbi Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—There are at present no building sites available in several thickly populated villages. It is prayed that in the case of such villages suitable lands be newly set apart for extending the old village sites. When the villagers want to extend the village or new persons desire to settle, they cannot get proper sites. It takes two or three years before an application is disposed of and thus the extension of villages is impeded. In every important village, land should be selected and set apart for such a purpose. As long as no application is received, the land may be given out temporarily for cultivation.

Reply of Government.—One of the tests of the efficiency of local executive officers is their capacity to induce villagers to remove from their insanitary surround-

ings, and Government have directed them to encourage extension of villages as much as possible. Villagers themselves are often unwilling to shift. If there are any cases of delay on the part of local officers, Government are prepared to deal severely with them, if such cases are brought to their notice.

SUBJECT No. 128.

Permission to build houses on gomal lands.

Mr. C. Nagappa, Nagar Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—All unassessed Government waste lands in the malnad tracts have been entered as gomal. Sanction of Government is to be obtained for building houses on these lands. Cultivable lands are situated either at the foot of hills or by the side of streams; and to protect the crops thereon from the damage done by wild beasts and birds, houses must necessarily be near them. As the present practice causes a good deal of delay and inconvenience, Amildars may, it is requested be empowered to give permission to build on these lands.

Reply of Government.—The Revenue Commissioner has been empowered to sanction appropriations of gomal land, and there should therefore be no delay in such cases.

SUBJECT No. 129.

Removal of the prohibition to build on cultivable lands.

Mr. Naraharaiya, Nelamangala Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The present prohibition to build on cultivable lands is a hardship to big land owners who require the settlement of servants on their estates for looking after the lands and superintending cultivation. If the Amildars be made to grant building licenses to such applicants on the condition that if the lands were to be resigned, they should be transferred to Government with the buildings thereon, it will be a help to the land owners and cultivators.

Reply of Government.—There is no such prohibition so long as the buildings are intended for agriculture. If there have been any such cases, they may be brought to the notice of the Revenue Commissioner.

SUBJECT No. 130.

Fixing the month of May for the grant of darkhasts.

Mr. D. S. Gopalachar, Devanhalli Municipality.

Summary of discussion.—The present practice of granting darkhasts in July deprives the darkhastdars of the opportunities for sowing May and April fasal (crops). Hence the darkhasts may be made to be presented in May.

Reply of Government.—Darkhasts are granted all the year round and no particular month has been fixed for the grant of darkhasts by the rules.

SUBJECT No. 131.

Commutation of labour to be contributed by raiyats for tank repairs into money.

Summary of discussion.—In spite of the strict orders issued by the Government to get the annual maintenance of major and minor tanks done by the raiyats, they neglect it for some years with the result that a large amount is required to rectify the accumulated neglect and to repair the tanks, thus causing loss both to Government and to the